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BELGAUM, *5th November*, 1900.

arning that His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord
cx, has included in his programme of tour, a visit
he ruins of Vijayanagar near Hampi, I considered
portune to write out this small pamphlet.
otwithstanding many administrative anxieties, His
llency has taken much interest in the preservation
e ancient monuments of this historic land ; and it is
ntly hoped that during the remaining term of His
llency's Viceroyalty, something permanent will be
in that direction. Although much is already done
Government to preserve and to bring to light from
urity many objects of archæological interest, a
deal more still remains to be done in a systematic

o serious attempt is yet made to write out the history
ijayanagar, the most extensive, prosperous and
rful Hindu Empire in modern times. Scattered
es only are to be found in works on Indian history.
writer of this pamphlet has attempted to compile an
rical account of this Empire from materials now
lable for such an undertaking. That work awaits
ration. This monograph is abridged from that
pilation for the use of the tourist, who visits the in-
sting ruins of Vijayanagar. The limited scope of this
prevented the writer from giving more details about
system of administration, land tenures and taxation,
e works, charities, education, literature, arts and
stries, trade and commerce, condition of the people
religious movements ; nor could he mention autho-
for his statements.

brief description of the buildings and other objects
st in and around Hampi is given in the
ndix.

V. R. NATU.

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Natu, Vishnu Raghunath —

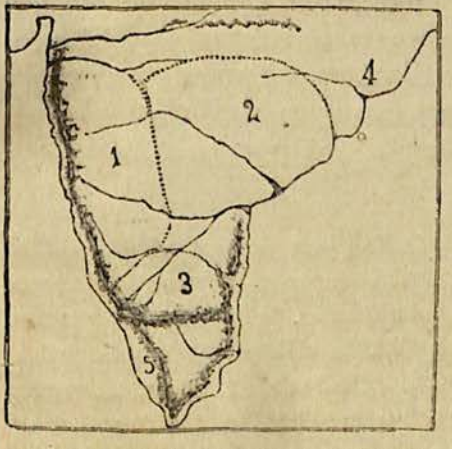
A MONOGRAPH,

On the Empire of Vijayanagar.

22c 38a

First Dynasty (*A. D.* 1336 *to* 1485).

THE closing years of the 13th century were momentous in the history of India. The old Hindu Kingdoms were fast disappearing before the conquering Mussalmans. Hitherto the foreign conquerors had confined their attention to the subjugation of Northern India, but now the accumulated wealth of centuries in Southern India tempted the Kings of Delhi to cross the Nurbada. The ever active, ambitious and successful Allauddin Khilaji not only conquered the Kingdoms of the North but sent armies after armies to over-throw the prosperous kingdoms of Gujrath, the Deccan and Karnatic. The Gujrath and Maharastra kingdoms were easily destroyed and the Muhammadan power established itself there firmly, till four-hundred years after it was reduced by the Marhattas. Allauddin's great General Mallik Kafur over-ran the Penninsula as far as Rameshvar and vanquished the kings of the Ballal and Kakatiya dynasties in Mysore and Telangana. The Hoyasal Ballals of Mysore never recovered from the blow but the Kakatiyas of Warangal resisted the Muhammadans for a century more. Thus in the early quarter of the 14th century the Deccan kingdom of the Yadavas of Deogiri, which extended to the south as far as the rivers Krishna and Malprabha, became a Muhammadan province.



SOUTHERN INDIA—at the close of 13th Century.
1. Kingdom of Maharastra. (Devgiri Yadavas)
2. Do. Telangan (Kakatiyas of Warangal).
3. Do. Dwarsamudra. (Ballals or Hoysalas).
4. Do. Kaling (Gajpatees of Kuttak).
5. Do. Malbar (or Keral).

Political intrigues at the Court of Delhi, jealousy amongst the generals and the rebellions of the Viceroys of Guzrath and the

Deccan were sufficient to engage the attention of the Tughluk Monarchs of Delhi, and no advantage was taken of the conquest of Karnatic by Mallik Kafur. The last king of the Ballals retired to Tonnur and his own vassals became independent. However a new and powerful Hindu Dynasty was coming into existence which not only absorbed the kingdom of the Ballals but portions ot the kingdom of Telangan also. While Jaffer Khan, the viceroy of the Deccan was scheming to establish an independent Mahomedan soveriegnty, known in history as the Bahmani kingdom of the Deccan, Raja Sangam, apparently a powerful vassal of the Ballals, and his five sons succeeded in establishing a Hindu Empire, the most powerful and prosperous in modern times, in Southern India.

Very little is known about this Sangam except what we find in the inscriptions, which say that he conquered Mysore and cross ed the Kauvery with his victorious armies. This dynasty trace its origin from the Yadavas, but whether they were the vassals of the Ballals or of the Kakatiyas is still doubtful. Sangama's sons Harihar (Hukk) and Bukk are considered to be the founders of this new kingdom. Soon after the return of Mallik Kafur to Delhi, we find these brothers occupying the provinces of Goa, Taluv (Kanara), Hoysal (Mysore), Banvasi and Kuntal (South Deccan). Tradition ascribes the foundation of this kingdom to the moral and material support of the great scholar, student and saint Madhav, otherwise known as Vidyaranya, who after observing great austerity in the lonely and charming woods of Humpi obtained a boon from the Goddess Bhuvaneshvari, who is said to have caused a shower of Hons to fall on the new city of Vidyanagar, which was named after him. The City of Vidyanagar or Vijayanagar was founded in A. D. 1336 and its first monarch was Harihar, the eldest of the five sons of Sangam.

HARIHAR I.—(1336-1350 A. D.)

The first king extended his dominion as is already shown over the provinces of Mysore, Kanara and Banvasi. The Northern limit was the rivers Malprabha and Krishna. It

appears that the fort of Badami was strengthened by him While he was at Vijayanagar his brother Bukk ruled the province of Mysore. His other brother Kamp administered the eastern districts and Mara ruled Banvasi.

King Harihar subjugated the old Jain Chieftains of Kanara and introduced a revenue system which was in force there till lately. He also subjugated the Arab chiefs who had occupied the western coast of Goa and Kanara. In A. D. 1343 he assisted the king of Warangal against the Musalmans. Ibn Batuta, who visited the western coast just at this period, records the war of Harihar against the Arab chiefs. The coast from Goa to Manglore and the inland country which were now in the possession of Hariappa were found by Ibn Batuta in a prosperous condition, lands fully cultivated, trade flourishing, and where theives were unknown. Madhav Vidyaranya was the Chief Minister of the king and is mentioned as the ruler of Banvasi and conqueror of Goa from the Arabs.

BUKKA (1350-1379. A. D).

While Harihar continued to call himself as only a great Chief, his brother Bukka assumed all the titles of an Emperor and made Vijayanagar, the Capital of the Empire. Bukka is considered to be the most powerful of the Vijayanagar Kings and was the first monarch who had to defend his dominions against the attacks of the Bahmani kings of Kulburga. He and his successors called themselves the *Sultans of the Hindus*, being their protectors against the Musalmans for nearly 250 years. Bukka is also renowned as a patron of learning. The great and ever-lasting encyclopedic works of the brothers Madhav and Sayan were due to his patronage. The great commentary of the Vedas by Sayana-charya was begun in this reign and finished in the next reign of Harihar II.

The works of these two great scholars extend almost over the whole field of Sanskrit learning. This was the last attempt to

revive the Vedic literature and ritual. Madhav was a Smarta Brahmin and a great advocate of the Vedant Philosophy of the Upanishads. He is styled as the chief minister of this and the next king, but really during this period he occupied the Chief Pontifical seat of Smart Brahmins at Shringeri in Mysore, which was founded by the great Shankaracharya in the 7th century. In all probability Madhav being Preceptor of these kings is described as Chief Minister out of veneration. Even now some ruined shrines and halls are found at Humpi which are ascribed to Madhav.

Emperor Bukk assisted king Rudradev of Warangal and therefore brought upon himself the wrath of Sultan Mohmad Shah, who invaded his territory in 1365 A. D. The seat of war was the Raichore Doab. Ferishta says that the Sultan defeated the king of Vijayanagar in several battles and massacred lacs of Hindus. Bukka made a treaty with the Sultan and an agreement was made that in future wars noncombatants should not be killed.

Mujahid Shah, the successor of Mohmad Shah again made a war against Bukk in 1376 and laid seige to the capital. But in this war the Sultan had to yield before the superior numbers of the Hindus and retired to Adony where a treaty was soon effected.

Ferishta writes that the Kingdom of Vijayanagar extended as far as Rameshvar. The army of the king was large and people brave but their ardour did not last long. They advanced to meet an enemy with dances and songs. The Bahmany Sultans maintained their authority by their valour only. Goa, Belgaum and Tul Konkan also belonged to the King, whose country was populous, subjects contented and submissive. The kings of Malbar and Ceylon and other parts of India sent their ambassadors to his Court with rich presents. The accumulated treasures of the king were equal to those of all the kings of the earth.

Bukka, though a Shiva worshipper also respected the other sects of the Hindus and even the Jains received support from

him. He amicably settled a dispute between the Jains and Ramanujas at Shravan Belgola in Mysore about their respective rights in religious processions through streets. Bukka is said to be a scholar, and many works of public utility such as tanks, canals and resthouses were constructed by him. The great tank Bukkasagar in the Anantpur District is named after him.

HARIHAR II.—(1379-1404 A. D.)

Bukka was succeeded by his son Harihar II. Having enjoyed peace for several years, he extended his empire in the Tamil country. About A. D. 1393 he established his supremacy over the last survivors of the most ancient royal houses of the Cholas and Pandyas. Inscriptions of Harihar II are found in Kanchi and Trichinopoly. He assumed the title of " Shardulmad-bhanjan " to commemorate his victory over the Cholas.

Harihar II is specially prasied for his princely gifts to Brahmins, temples and colleges. He extended his patronage towards Jains also and followers of that sect were raised to high posts in the administration. Irug Dandadhip, a Jain scholar of some repute built a Jinalaya in the city of Vijayanagar, still to be seen amongst the ruins. Harihar II continued his support to Sanskrit learning and the work of brothers Sayan-Madhav was completed in his time. While his contemporary Firuz Shah Taghluk was burning Brahmins and their books at Delhi, Harihar II became the champion of Hindu religion in Southern India.

Inscriptions and grants of Harihar II are found in Dharwar, Kanara, Goa, Mysore, Bellary, Kadapa, Kanchi, and Trichinopoly, which show the extent of his wide dominions. Ferishta mentions that a great famine lasting for 12 years devastated the Deccan and Karnatak. In this famine the distress of the people must have been aggravated by a war which broke out in 1398. The army of Vijayanagar crossed the river Tungabhadra and

occupied the Raichore Doab. Sultan Ferozshah of Kulburga however surprised the Hindu Commander in his tent and killed him. The Hindu army retired in confusion and was pursued by the Mussalmans to the walls of Vijayanagar. A peace was as usual made on payment of indemnity. Just at this period Timor was carrying sword and fire in Northern India. Ferozshah of Kulburga is said to have sought his aid against the Mussalman kings of Guzarath and Khandesh, when the latter entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with Harihar II. A second war was almost imminent but was only averted by the death of Harihar II in A. D. 1403. This king also undertook many public works and built several forts. A gold currency was in use and his gold and copper coins are found.

DEVARAYA I.—(1403-1416A. D.)

Devaraya was the son of the last monarch. During this reign the Hindus suffered reverses in their war with Feroz Shah of Kulburga. This war was brought upon by the lust of the king for a beautiful girl, the daughter of a goldsmith of Mudgal. The king sought her hand but being refused he sent an army to Mudgal, which belonged to Ferozshah. The girl escaped but a bloody war ensued which was humiliating to Vijayanagar. The king of Vijayanagar was forced to give up the forts of Navalgund and Bankapur and to give his daughter in marriage to the Sultan, whose zenana was famous for possessing beauties of many lands. This was the first alliance of its kind ever mentioned in the history of Southern India and its reliability entirely rests upon Ferishta. Ferishta gives a grandiloquent description of the royal nuptials, which were celebrated with great pomp. When Ferozshah visited his father-in-law Devaraya in Vijayanagar, "the road for some miles outside the city gate was spread with cloth of gold, velvet, satin and other rich stuffs. The two princes rode between the ranks of beautiful boys and girls who waved plates of gold and silver flowers over their heads and threw them to be

gathered by the people." This alliance of the two kingdoms did not last long as the sequel will show. Devraya died about 1416 A. *D.*

VIJAYARAYA (1416-1418 A. D.)

He was the son of the last king by his wife Demambika. This was a short reign. He is specially mentioned to be a great scholar and fond of women.

PROUDHA DEVARAYA II.—(1418-1446 A. D.)

Son of Vijaya Bhupati by his wife Narayanambika. Next to Bukka he is the greatest king of the first dynasty. He recovered the lost provinces of Vijayanagar from the Musalmans whom he defeated in wars. No sooner he ascended the throne than Ferozshah laid seige to the forts of Pangal and Ballamkonda. The war that ensued lasted for about two years and resulted in the complete defeat of the Muhamadans whose commander Meer Faizulla was killed and the Sultan had to run away for his life. Sultan Ferozshah died of broken heart and was succeeded by Ahmad Shah who removed his capital to Bedar. This Sultan declared a war against Devraya in 1422 A. D. He crossed the Tungbhadra and surprised the Hindu camp on the other side. Devraya was almost made a prisoner. This was a cruel war in which no mercy was shown to any Hindu. The Sultan took pride in killing the largest possible number of Hindus and like the other Mussalman fanatics, destroyed temples, burnt monasteries and colleges and broke idols. After a prolonged seige of Vijayanagar, which the Sultan could not reduce, a treaty was effected on payment of heavy indemnity by Devraya. No territorial advantage was secured by the Mussalmans. A famine occurred in 1424-25, in this part of the country, possibly the result of this war. As Devraya could not render any assistance to the Raja of Warangul, that ancient Kingdom, which had resisted the Mussalmans for a century, was finally subdued by the Bahmani Sultan in A. D. 1425.

During the last mentioned war, Devraya found the weakness of his army in archery and therefore took 2,000 Mussalman archers into his service and raised an army of 80,000 Hindu archers. He induced Mussalmans to settle in Vijayanagar and even allowed them to build a Mosque in the city. The Mahomedans had sufficiently lost thir bigotry to take service under an infidel king, but their scruples were respected by Devraya by permitting them to render obeisance to a copy of the Koran placed on a pedestal in his court. Sultan Ahmadshah died in 1435 and was succeeded by Allauddin. His brother Mohmad rebelled against him and with the assistance of Devraya took Raichore, Bijapur and Shoranur. This confusion in the Bahmany kingdom made Devraya, the greatest monarch in South India.

Besides the Muhammadan historians and inscriptions, much information about the kingdom of Vijayanagar during this reign is obtained from the writings of two foreign travellers, one of whom Nicola Conti, was a Venitian trader who visited the cities of Bedar and Vijayanagar about this time. He found the latter city rich and populous. It had a circumference of 60 miles and was protected by walls. It contained an army of 90,000 soldiers. He found the practices of Sati and swinging by hooks in use and at the car-festivals men threw themselves under the wheels to be run over. As a Christian he was shocked to learn that the king had a large number of wives.

A description given by the other traveller Abdul-Razzak is more graphic and detailed. He was the agent of the king of Khorasan and had seen the coast of Malbar and travelled inland from Manglore to Vijayanagar. Manglore belonged to Devraya. Abdul-Razzak found the country well populated. It was fertile and fully cultivated. The Empire possessed 300 ports and its extent was from Ceylon to Kulburgra and from Malbar to Bengal. The king was the greatest king in India and was styled, a 'Raya'. He had an army of 12 lacs of soldiers and had a thousand elephants. On his way to Vijayanagar Abdul-Razzak passed through the Ghats and saw Bellur, the old capital of the Ballals, containing a very beautiful temple.

The city of Vijayanagar was fortified with seven walls and well guarded. It was 8 miles by 8 in extent. There were gardens, fields, and pleasure-houses all round the city, which was thickly populated. The palace, standing on a high ground, was in the centre, from which extended long and broad bazzars in four directons. Pleasing water channels flowed through the streets. There were numerous flower stalls. The people were particularly fond of flowers. They were also fond of betal-nut and leaf, whose virtues are praised by this traveller. There were many jewellers who exposed their costly articles for sale in their shops. There was a Court of Justice presided over by a Dand-Naik, to whom petitioners applied freely after payment of a nazar. This Officer visited the Emperor every evening and gave him an account of the day's works. The palace of this dignitary was behind the Royal Palace. The court house contained the Government records, where numerous clerks used to write on palm leaves with iron styles or on wooden boards with chalk.

There was a mint near the palace where gold, silver and copper coins were struck. Gold was brought to the mint at stated times from the different parts of the rich kingdom. The gold coins were called "Varah" and Pratap'; Panam and Tal were silver coins and the copper coin was styled "zital".

The officers and the army were paid regularly in cash from the treasury. The country was very populous and produced large revenue. King's cellars were full of molten gold. The people in the town were rich. From a noble-man to the lowest workman, people were found wearing costly ornaments.

The principal Magistrate of the city lived near the palace. He had 12,000 footmen under him to protect the city. These men were paid out of a tax on the dancing girls who were rich, beautiful and accomplished. These men knew everything that happened in the city and they were held responsible for any theft. Merchants from all parts of the world were to be seen

in the market. Life and property were safe in the kingdom as the King took severe notice of the misdeeds of Provincial Governors.

The king was a pleasing young man, rather tall but of a spare body and olive colour. Abdulrazak had several audiences of the king who inquired about many things respecting the Mussalman Kingdoms. The king sat on a throne of gold inlaid with jewels and the walls the of throne-room were covered with plates of gold. The king had a large harem containing numerous wives and concubines. It was strictly guarded.

While in Vijayanagar, Abdul-razak witnessed the grand festival of Dussera, on which occasion the king, received in state his lords and nobles from all parts of the empire and reviewed his troops. Abdul-razak has given a detailed account of this festival in glowing terms. He was highly impressed with the grand show of wealth, power and influence of the king. According to Ferishta, Devraya sent an army against the sultan of Bedar in 1443 A. D. The forts of Mudgal and Bankapur were invested. Abdul-razak says that the Hindus were successful and brought numerous prisoners to the capital. Ferishta however mentions that the king was defeated and his son killed. Therefore a treaty was made and the parties agreed to remain within their own limits.

These frontier wars were so frequent that Raichore Doab, comprising the modern districts of Lingsagar and Raichore belonging to the Nizam, was a constant scene of war for 300 years. This tract suffered more or less from these wars since the times of the earliest Chalukya kings to those of Tipu Sultan in the last century. Excepting this triangular tract of country, the empire of Vijayanagar enjoyed peace as is proved by the writings of several foreign writers. In his descriptions of the border wars Ferishta is never satisfied unless he records that lacs of Hindus were massacred. Mahomaden historians are fond of hyperbole. It is clear that these frontier wars were considered as a mere pastime.

Devraya II after a glorious reign of about 30 years died in 1446 A. D.

MALLIKARJUN or IMMADI DEVARAYA (1447-1467 A D).

The eldest son of the last king by his wife Sinhaladevi. Very little is known about this reign ; the Mussalman historians do not mention any war during it. His chief Minister was one Timmana Dand-Naik, a Shri Vaishnava, whose grants are found in Mysore. This king had paid a visit to " Narasing" of Pennugonda, who was a vassal of Vijayanagar, but established his own dynasty there later on. This king had a son named Nandraj, but he does not appear to have succedeed him.

VIRUPAKSHA (1467-1485 A. D).

He was the brother of Mallikarjun. This appears to be a weak king and lost parts of his kingdom in wars with the Bahmani kings. Just at this time the Bahmani kingdom was administered by Malik Tujar the ablest Mahomedan statesman of the Deccan, otherwise known as Khaja Khan Gawan. This Minister not only improved the internal affairs of the Bahmani dominions, but extended the limits of the same by fresh conquests. In A. D. 1470 he conquered the Maratha princes of south Konkan and invaded Goa and took it in 1471 from Vijayanagar. King Virupax ordered the commanders of the forts of Belgaum and Bankapur to send armies to recover this valuable possession, but these plans were frustrated by Khaja Gawan who invested the fort of Belgaum and took it after a long seige in 1472. Belgaum and Goa were never again recovered by the Kings of Vijayanagar.

Virupax also had troubles on the East coast which was invaded by the Gajpati king Purushottam-dev of Katak, who was repulsed by Narsing, a petty chief and principal commander of Vijayanagar. A few years after this, Narsing had again to fight with Mahomadshah of Bedar who penetrated

as far as Kanchi devastating the country. This Sultan died in 1481 after murdering his faithful minister Khaja Gawan in a fit of anger. Political intrigues were rife at Bedar and therefore Eusuf Adilshah,the commander ot the Mussalman forces,who was fighting with Narsing near Masulipatam returned to Bedar. King Virupax tried to take advantage of the troubles in the Bahmani Kingdom by sending an army to recover Goa, but Eusuf Adilshah defeated this object.

It is not clear when Virupax died. It appears that he had no issue and a boy was adopted from Penugonda and named Proudh-Devraya.

PROUDH—DEVRAYA III. (1485-95 A. D).

From old chronologies called 'Rayal Paddhaties' we learn that the Dynasty of Bukka came to an end in Shaké 1407 (1485 A. D). That dynasty ruled for 150 years. Afterwards the "Kodwaru" (Vassals) of the Rayalus (Emperors) succeeded to the throne and the first King of the new dynasty was Proudha Devraya. This prince was a minor and ruled for 12 years. Ferishta says that in a war with the Mussalmans in A. D. 1494, the young king was wounded. This king was murdered by his Commander and Minister "Himraya," (which is a corruption of "Narsinharaya") who usurped the throne. Inscriptions of this Narasa, who appears to be the king *de-facto* range from 1491 to 1496 A. D. Narasaraya did not assume the title of an Emperor and the new dynasty really begins from the accession of his son Vira-Narasing in 1497. Without further researches, it is not possible to know the real cause of this dynastical change. The kings of the new dynasty proved as valourous as Bukka and further extended their kingdom.

Before entering upon the history of the new dynasty it will be necessary to remember some great political events which happened just at this time. These events had not only a direct influence upon the history of Vijayanagar, but upon the future

history of India. The end of the 15th and early quarter of the 16th century were remarkable in Indian history for many political changes.

While Vijayanagar changed its ruling dynasty, the Bahmani kingdom was altogether destroyed by its own generals. After the death of Khaja Gawan anarchy prevailed at Bedar and Eusuf Adil-shah proclaimed independence in 1489 and established the famous kingdom of Bijapur. His example was followed by Nizam-ul-Mulk who founded 'Nizamshahi' of Ahmadnagar in 1490 A.D. Similarly the kingdoms of Berar, Bedar, and Golkonda were established within a short time. Thus the Bahmani kingdom was dismembered. The history of the Deccan during the next two centuries is a record of wars between these five rival kingdoms in which the kings of Vijayanagar also participated. The combined Mussalman kings destroyed Vijayanagar and afterwards themselves fell victims to the Moghuls of Delhi.

About this time the Moghuls invaded Northern India and Baber laid the foundation of the great Moghul Empire of Delhi. This conquest by the Moghuls united the different Mahomedan kingdoms of Northern India into a solid Empire. Another event far more important in its consequences than this was the coming of Vasco-da-Gama to the Malbar coast. This was the beginning of European settlements and conquests in Asia. The Emperors of Vijayanagar had much to do commercially and politically with the Portuguese who occupied the Western coast and controlled all the foreign trade by the sea.

SECCND DYNASTY.

VEER NARSINHA (1496-1507 A. D.).

This was the first enthroned Monarch of the new Dynasty. He was the eldest son of Narasa mentioned before. This Kshatriya family traces its descent from the Yadavs. The grandfather of Narasa was one Timma, a chief from Tuluv (Canara). His son Ishvar was the father of Narasa who protected the

Vijayanagar Kingdom against the Mussalman and Hindu invaders. This Narasa used to style himself only a "Mahamandale-shvar" or "a Great Over Lord". He had four sons from different wives and three of whom successively occupied the throne of Vijayanagar.

The following geneology of this dynasty is ascertained from inscriptions :—

TIMMA.

ISHVARA.

NARASA (1494-97).

(1) Veer-Narsinha 1497-1508 | (2) Krishnaraya 1508 to 1530 | Rangaraya | (5) Sadashiva 1543-1576 | Achyutaraya (3) 1530-1542 | (4) Venkatadri 1542-1543.

Some of the chiefs of Mysore were reluctant to acknowledge this new dynasty and refused to submit, when Narsinh despatched his brothers Krishnaraya and Achyutraya with a large army who took their forts and subdued them. Within a few years after the accession of Narsinha, the Portuguese ships touched the coast of Karwar under their commander Vasco-da-Gama in 1498 A. D.

The Portuguese raided the coast and obtained some concessions from the local chiefs of Honaver and Bhatkal who were subordinates of Vijayanagar. In 1503 the Portuguese attacked the port of Honaver and burnt it. They then went to Bhatkal which was then a great center of trade, and attacked it. The local chief who was subordinate to the king Narsinha refused to make any substantial concessions to the Portuguese but

agreed to give 500 loads of rice by way of tribute. The Portuguese built a fort at Anjdiv in 1505. Almieda, the first Portuguese Viceroy, picked up a quarrel with the chief of Honavar and again attacked the town, which was bravely defended by the garrison; but finally the Portuguese artillery prevailed. Timmaya, the Governor of the town, however induced Almeida to make a treaty. The same year King Narsinha sent an ambassador to Kananur to treat with Almeida. A treaty was made by which Narasinha agreed to the building of a fort on the coast by the Portuguese any where except at Bhatkal.

About this time, Italian traveller Varthema, visited Kanara and Vijayanagar. He gives an interesting account of the kingdom of, the "Narsing" as the Portuguese used to call the Vijayanagar Empire. He found that the local chiefs in Kanara were subordinate to Narsing. The port towns were well built and prosperous in trade. Provisions were plentiful every where. He took 15 days to reach Vijayanagar from Kananur. His description of the city tallies with that of Abdul Razak. The king Narsinh was the richest king Varthema heard of. Narasing's revenue was estimated at £ 15,00,000 a year. He had 40,000 horsemen, 400 elephants and some dromedaries. The horses were very valuable. He was a great friend of the Portuguese who honored him. He was so rich that the ornaments of the horse he rode were alone worth an Italian city. When he rode out his retinue consisted of several kings, nobles, and 5000 horses. Travelling was every where safe, except in some places wild animals gave trouble. King Narsinha's minister was one Timma. The kings of this line appear to be the worshipers of Vishnu.

KRISHNARAYA (1508-1530 A. D)

The greatest of the Vijayanagar Emperors, was the younger, step-brother of Vir-Narsing. His mother's name is Nagala-Devi There is abundant evidence of numerous inscriptions to disprove the tradition, that he was the illegitimate son of Narsa and that he usurped the throne setting aside the claims of Vir-

Narasinh. There is clear evidence to show that he succeeded his brother Vir-Narasinh after the latter's death.

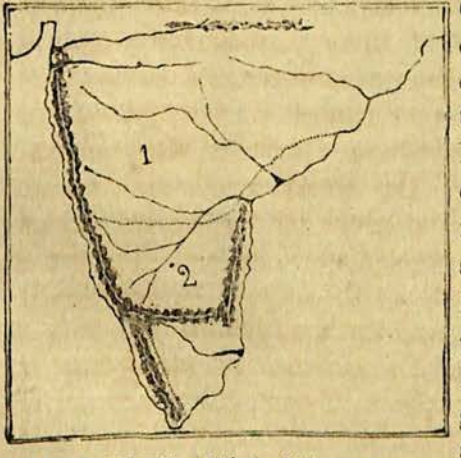
Krishnaraya's memory is fondly cherished even now in Karnatic. During his reign of 22 years Karnatic had seen its halcyon days under its own ruler. South India never had witnessed such an extensive and compact Empire enjoying peace and prosperity and governed by an enlightened Hindu Prince. He was an ideal Hindu king in every way. He was successful in his wars against the Mussalmans, he extended the limits of his empire, introduced a model revenue system, encouraged agriculture and trade, patronized sanskrit and the vernacular literature, besought the company of the learned men of whatever sect, constructed tanks and canals, built magnificient temples, endowed religious institutions and indulged in unlimited charities. His court was magnificent, and skilled men and artists from all parts of India flocked there. His gold coins are even now worn as Talismans. In this sketch it is not possible to give at length the Hisory of Krishnaraya.

During this reign Goa was takenby the Portuguese from Eusuf Adilshah in 1510 A. D. Krishnaraya encouraged this conquest and his under-lord Timmaya of Honavar took active part in assisting the Portuguese. Goa was however retaken by Adil-Shah and therefore Krishnaraya prolonged the negotiations of a treaty with the Portuguese which he concluded after Goa was again captured by them. By this treaty he allowed them to build a warehouse at Bhatkal for which the Portuguese agreed to send all Arab and Persian horses landed at Goa, to Vijayanagar and not to Bijapur. He further agreed to be friendly with the Portuguese and to wage a war against the king of Bijapur. Krishnaraya engaged a number of Portuguese to command his artillery.

Eusuf Adilshah died about 1510 and was succeeded by Ismail Adilshah. In 1512 Krishnaraya took the ports of Raichore and Mudgal from Bijapur. In 1520 Ismail attempted to take back

these but was completely defeated by Krishnaraya. In this war according to a Portuguese writer, Krishnaraya had with him 35,000 horse, half a million foot, 586 elephants, 12,000 water-carriers and 20,000 dancing girls. After this Bijapur did not attempt any war with him. In all his successes and administration Krishnaraya was assisted by his brothers Achyutraya and Rangaraya and by his great minister Timmaraya (or Appaji) and his brother Govindraya.

The chief of Umuttur in Mysore rebelled and Krishnaraya personally took field against him and reduced the forts, Shrirang pattan and Shivsamudra. He then went to Curg and had planned a march against Malbar; but the chiefs of Malbar made friendly alliance with him. He then went to the Tamil country and completed the conquest of the Pandyan Princes and appointed his own Viceroy at Madura. He caused to be built the forts of Jinji, Velur, and Chandragiri. After establishing his rule firmly in the Tamil country he turned his attention to Telangana and subdued the chief of Udayagiri (in Nellore District.) He then proceeded to conquer the Gajapati Raja of Orissa. He conquered the whole of the country now included in districts of Krishna and Godavari. He had also conquered a great part of Telenagana now included in the dominions of the Nizam, but these last conquests did not remain long in his possession, as Kutubshah, the founder of the kingdom of Golkonda took them back from him. The king Prataparudra of Orissa gave his daughter in marriage to Krishnaraya and made peace with him. This alliance forms the subject of a romantic poem in Telegu.



SOUTHERN INDIA.—14th to 16th century.
1. Mussalman kingdoms.
2. Empire of Vijayanagar.

Krishnaraya took personal interest in the administration of the kingdom, in which he always kept moving. At his court there were eight great Telegu poets, including the famous court jester Tennalu Ramkrishna, whose wits are even now current in Karnatic; there were also Sanskrit and Kanarese poets and scholars at his court, such as Appaya Dikshit, Timmana, Kumar-vyas, Bhatta-murti and others. He has himself composed a poem in Telegu and it is said that his daughter Mohanangi was also a poetess. Vallabhacharya, the founder of a Vaishnav sect, received orders at Vijayanagar and Krishnaraya gave him much wealth. Even Jain Pandits were entertained at his court.

Krishnaraya improved or repaired many temples and built the temple of Krishna in Krishnapuram at Vijayanagrr, now in ruins. The most beautiful of all the Vijayanagar temples, the temple of Vijaya Vithal in which the combined Chalukyan and Dravidian styles of architecture are found in perfection, was begun in this reign. He dammed the Tungabhadra and brought a large canal into the city of Vijayanagar. His minister Mudd also cut seven other canals from the same river. The great tank of Magad Masur between the borders of Dharwar and Mysore and the one at Shiggaon were constructed in this reign. He built many towns, some of which are now important places in Karnatic, such as Hubli, Banglore, Bellary, Chik-Balapur and others. He is said to have built many forts also. He introduced a Revenue system which was like the present rayatwary system, where individual holdings were measured and rent fixed according to the quality and area. Correct land records were kept in each village and some such records were found by Munroe in Kanara. The rates of assessments were very morderate until they were enhanced by the Mussalman rulers. Assessment was taken either in cash or kind. The Revenue Survey of Krishnaraya became the basis of all subsequent Survey settlements in Mysore, Kanara and Karnatak. The Kings of Vijayanagar advanced tillage, made money advances to rayats and encouraged people to occupy waste lands, to improve gardening and establish townships. This King also encouraged trade and commerce.

The Portuguese traveller.—Barbosa visited this empire about A. D. 1514. He saw the Canara coast and the inland country. Space does not permit lengthy quotations from his interesting account. He found that the Tuluvanad (Canara Districts) contained many rivers and seaports with much trade and shipping and many rich merchants. Even the hilly parts of inland had many good villages. The upland plain was fertile and abundantly supplied with many cities, villages and forts. Rice and many other crops were grown and there were plenty of domestic animals. His description of Vijayanagar, of the King and his court is grand. The city was thickly populated and men from all nations were to be seen there. There were many rich Hindu and Mussalman traders. All religions had free play. This city was the chief mart of precious stones in India, which came from Burma, Ceylon, and local mines. Pearls came from Hormuz and Cael. Chinese silk and dyed stuff from Alexandria and Europe were brought in large quantities. The people were rich and wore jewellery on their person. The King ruled the country through his Dand-Naiks or Governors who administered strict justice.

The Eastern coast was also under this King and possessed many sea ports, where ships from China, Pegu, Ceylon, Arabia, Malbar and from Sumatra and Java flocked in large numbers. The merchants called ' shettis ' were very rich. The Historian Ferishta does not even mention this great King, but another Bijapur historian says that Krishnaraya was a wise and just ruler. He protected such Mussalmans as found shelter in his Kingdom and they too fought bravely for him.

Krishnaraya died in 1530 A. D. He had no male issue and one of his daughters was married to Ramaraya, who was a great officer and Chief under Krishnaraya.

ACHYUTARAYA—(1530—1542 A. D.)

Krishnaraya was succeeded by his younger step-brother Achyutaraya, who is said to have ruled with Krishnaraya. Rang-

raya and Achyutaraya were Narasa's sons by his wife Ombambika. Many public works and temples were constructed during this reign. Ismail Adil Shah and Kasim Berid led their combined forces against Raichore and Moodgal and recovered those places from Vijayanagar. In 1534, we find Vijayanagar assisting the forces of Bijapur against Kutub Shah of Golkonda. This is the first occasion when Vijayanagar mixed itself in the mutual struggle of these newly established Mahomedan Kingdoms, a step which ultimately resulted in the ruin of this great empire. Achyutaraya extended his authority as far as Tinnevelly, the farthest corner of South India. He had a minor son named Venkat who succeeded him.

VENKATADRI—1542-43 A. D.

This King being only a child, the whole administration was in the hands of Shalak Timmaraya. The Bijapur historian, Shiraji, writes that Krishnaraya's son (should be Achyutraya's, whose name is omitted by Mahomedan writers) was only an infant. The minister Hos Tirmalraya carried on the administration. He dismissed many old officers and brought in his own relations and favourites. He became highly unpopular, and respectable nobles retired from the capital. Ibrahim Adilshah, the successor of Ismail, took advantage of this and invaded Vijayanagar. Hos Tirmalraya bought him off by paying 80 lacs of Hons. Tirmalraya's rule became oppressive and good deal of anarchy prevailed. The young King soon died and it is said that Hos Tirmalraya murdered him and began to rule himself. The old noblemen of the Kingdom headed by Ramraya, the son-in-law of Krishnaraya, combined against him, when Hos Tirmal became furious and sought the aid of Ibrahmin Adil Shah, promising to pay the latter 3 lacs of Hons each day of his march. The King of Bijapur triumphantly entered Vijayanagar and returned on receipt of 50 lacs of Hons. This action exasperated the Lords of Vijayanagar who surrounded Hos Tirmalraya in the palace. Hos Tirmalraya seeing escape impossible wantonly destroyed valuable property in the palace and finally committed suicide. Thus ended the period of anarchy in Vijayanagar which according to chronicles

lasted for 9 months. Inscriptions confirm that Venkat died soon after his accession. As the throne was vacant Ramraya raised to it Sadashivraya, son of Rangaraya

SADASHIVRAYA—1543—1576 A. D.

This being also an infant King, Ramraya carried on the administration in his name till the fall of Vijayanagar in 1565. Inscriptions of Sadashivraya are found for some years later till 1576 A. D. when probably, he died at Penugonda in obscurity During the whole period from 1542 to 1565 A. D., Ramraya was the real Emperor of Vijayanagar, though he never assumed that title.

RAMARAJA—THE PROTECTOR (1542 to 1565 A. D.)

Ramraja claimed his descent from Bijjal, (1167 A. D.) King of the Chalukyas of Kalyani, who was murdered by Basav, the founder of the Lingayat sect. Ramaraya's ancestors, who styled themselves Narpatis, held some Jehagir in the Kurnool District and he himself served under Kutub Shah of Golkonda. He lost a battle with the Bijapur Kings and incurred the displeasure of Kutub. He then entered into the service of Krishnaraya who gave him his daughter in marriage and also a military command. He got also the fort of Adoni as a marriage gift. When Hos Tirmalraya was fighting with the nobles of Vijayanagar, the great Bijapur General, Asadkhan had invested Adoni which was ably defended by Venkatadri, younger brother of Ramaraja. Shiraji, a Bijapur historian thus describes the position of Ramaraya at this time.

" Ramaraya conducted the administration in the name of Krishnaraya's son, (should be 'nephew'). The young Prince was shown to the people in the Court. During the first two years of his administration Ramaraya gradually filled all offices of state by his relatives and supporters. His brother Tirumalraya managed the Civil administration while Venkatadri was the Commander-in-Chief. When his power became firmly secure Ramaraja con-

fined the young Prince in the palace and himself administered the country for 23 years in great prosperity. He completed the great canal in Vijayanagar which was begun by Krishnaraya. Some refractory Mussalman nobles from the neighbouring Mahomedan Kingdoms had taken asylum with him and he treated them kindly. A special part of the Imperial city was assigned to the residence of Mussalman population and it was called *Turki Mohala*. The Mussalmans built musjids and even killed animals for their food. Ramaraja and his brothers and nobles built rich palaces and temples in the city which had about 70 canals to supply water. The Nobles planted gardens where several kinds of fruit were grown. Ramraja was a noble and wise ruler. His prosperity continued till he was defeated by the combined forces of the Mahomedan Kings ".

Like his predecessors he encouraged arts and literature The Naiks of Madura famous for their grand buildings in South India were his viceroys. As there was scarcely any trouble in the empire, he sought an opportunity to recover the forts of Raichore and Mudgal from Bijapur, and such an opportunity was easily found in the quarrels of the Mussalman Kings of the Deccan. To understand fully the various and ever changing coalitions formed by him during the next 20 years, a brief study of the political condition of the Deccan would be necessary; but it is out of place here. It is enough for our limited purpose to know that when he assumed the administration of Vijayanagar, Bijapur was ruled by Ibrahim Adil Shah with the assistance of his famous General, Asadkhan of Belgaum. Burhan Nizamsha ruled Ahmednagar and Kutub Shah continued to rule Golkonda. Beridshahi Kingdom of Bedar was practically conquered by Bijapur, though Amir Berid and his son Ali tried to be free. This kingdom was very small, and became a prey to the bordering Kings of Bijapur, Ahmadnagar and Golkonda.

After Krishnaraya's death Kutub Shah reconquered some places from Vijayanagar and Ramaraja was waiting for an occa-

sion to recover the same, but in the meantime a war broke out between Burhan Nizamshah and Ibrahim Adilshah. Burhan was assisted by Kutub of Golkonda and Ramaraja, and the latter invaded Bijapur. In this war Kutubshah received a fatal wound and was succeeded by Jamsid. But this succession was opposed by his brother Ibrahim who rebelled, but being unsuccessful retired to Vijayanagar where he was well received and protected by Ramaraja. The war with Bijapur soon ended as Ramaraja was bought off by Asadkhan.

In 1557 Ramaraja entered into a treaty with the Portuguese Viceroy, Dom-Joao-da-Castro, by which the Portuguese agreed to send Persian and Arab horses to Vijayanagar and not to Bijapur. It was also agreed that Vijayanagar was to divert all grain going from Bankapur and Dharwar to Banda, to the Portuguese fortresses of Honaver and Ankola ; that all country cloth was to be sent to the Portuguese factors where it was to be exchanged with copper, tin, coral, vermillion, mercury, silk from China and Ormuz brought by the Portuguese ; that a war be declared against Bijapur by both the parties and Mussalman ships trading on Vijayanagar coast should be captured and made over to the Portuguese ; and that lands lying between the sea and the Sahyadris and between Banda and Chitkul, if conquered from the enemy, should be given to the Portuguese and the rest to Vijayanagar. About 1550 Jamshid Kutub died and was succeeded by Subhankuli, but the nobles rebelled and asked Ibrahim Kutub, who was at Vijayanagar with Ramaraja to occupy Golkonda. Ramaraja assisted Ibrahim in this enterprise and escorted him to Golkonda where Ibrahim was soon installed as king. At this time Asadkhan was dead and Ramaraja encouraged Burhan Nizamshah to invade Bijapur from the North. He took Sholapur and Peranda while Ramaraja recovered Raichore and Mudgal. In 1553 war again broke out with Bijapur and Burhan Nizamshah and Ramaraja invaded that country. Burhan died at Bijapur which he had besieged and was succeeded by Hussen Nizam Shah. After this Ramaraja became friend of Bijapur

and fought against Ahmednagar. Ibrahim Adil Shah made friendship with Ramaraja and with his assistance wanted to recover back Sholapur. A war broke out in which Husen Nizam's General, Syfun Mulk had joined Ibrahim. But no sooner war was begun with Ahmadnagar than this traitor General turned against Ibrahim and would have taken Bijapur if it were not saved by the timely assistance of Venkatadri, brother of Ramaraja, who defeated Syfun Mulk. Ibrahim Adil Shah died in 1557 A. D. and was succeeded by Ali Adil Shah whose first act was to secure the friendship of Ramaraja. He sent Kishver Khan to Vijayanagar on this errand. Soon after Ali Adilshah himself went to Vijayanagar to see Ramaraja who gave him a grand reception. He agreed to assist Ali against Husen Nizamshah, who hearing of this alliance sought the aid of Ibrahim Kutub shah. Ramaraja however wrote to the latter and reminded him of the past obligations. Ibrahim Kutub therefore joined Bijapur and the armies of the three kings combined at Kulburga before invading Ahmadnagar. The combined forces consisted of 9,00,000 of infantry and 1,00,000 cavalry. They laid seige to the fort of Ahmednagar when Husen Nizamshah fled to Paitan. Ibrahim Kutub-shah however privately assisted the enemy, while Ramaraja and Ali devastated the country all round. But Ibrahim tried to induce Ramaraja to give up further operations and even offered Kundapilly district to him as a bribe but Ramaraja did not yield. Ibrahim then withdrew his forces and the war was concluded by Husen-shah who made a treaty with Ramaraja and Ali. Husen agreed to restore Kalyani to Bijapur and to accept the supremacy of Ramaraja. Husen Nizamshah did not remain quiet after this humiliating treaty. He wanted to retaliate and with that object strengthened the fort of Ahmadnagar and secured the alliance of Ibrahim Kutubshah by giving him his daughter in marriage. War again broke out in 1563, when Husen and Ibrahim laid seige to the fort of Kalyani. Ramaraja did not like the interference of Ibrahim Kutub in this war and sent a great army against Goalkonda and himself joined the forces of Bijapur. Husen and Ibrahim were both defeated near Kalyani and the combined army of Bijapur and Vijaya-

nagar entered the Ahamadnagar territory. The fort of Ahmadnagar was invested as before, when Hussen-Nizam-shah fled to Junner ; and was followed there by Ramraja. Hussen thereupon went into the hills and Ramaraja returned to Ahmednagar. While encamped there, during the sudden floods of the Seena, he lost thousands of men and large quantity of stores. Then he returned to the south. He wanted to take possession of Sholapur but Ali-Adil-shah gave up the idea, fearing that Ramaraja would retain the place for himself. On their way back Ramarāja's army gave much trouble to the Mussalmans. As a price of his assistance, Ali agreed to cede Bagalkot and Yatgiri to Ramaraja. While Ramaraja was at Ahmadnagar his brother Venkatadri was devastating the Goalkonda kingdom and his son-in-law Timraj went against Dever-konda. Finally Ibrahim Kutub-Shah ceded Guntur, Ghanpura and Pangul to Ramaraja and put an end to this war. Thus at this time Ramaraja became the greatest monarch of the Deccan and a dictator to the Mussalman Kings. His ambition however led him to excesses and the Mahomedan kings learnt that their first act for their mutual benefit was to crush him. His conduct had alienated from him not only Ibrahim Kutub but even Ali-Adil shah. Husen-Nizam-Shah was a skilful statesman and he took advantage of this feeling against Ramaraja and induced the kings of Bedar, Goalkonda and Bijapur to join him against Vijayanagar. To make this alliance more secure he gave his daughter Chandbibi, who became famous in history afterwards, in marriage to Ali Adil-shah and restored Sholapur to Bijapur. Ali also married his sister to the son of Husen Shah. Thus Husenshah made a family compact with Goalkonda and Bijapur against their common enemy Ramaraja, who had then reached the zenith of his power and arrogance. But for this combination it was not possible to subdue this most powerful person. His army was great and his resources were almost unlimited. If Ramaraja had waited for a time and had not opposed personally the combined armies with his full strength, the combination would not have lasted long. The mutual jealousies of these Mussalman kings were so bitter that even

marriage alliances would only have a temporary effect. But Ramaraja either through his pride or through grave political error, faced the combined forces on the south bank of the river Krishna, near the village of Dhanur. The battle is famous in history as the battle of Talikot, which was the last camp of the armies of the allies. Ramaraja brought his whole army to meet the Mussalmans, of which one division was commanded by Venkatadri, another by Tirmalraya and the third by himself. His forces are variously estimated. Ferishta says that Ramraja had 9 lacs of infantry, 60,000 horse, 2,000 elephants and 1000 guns. This famous and decisive battle which resulted in the destruction of the prosperous kingdom of Vijayanagar was fought on 25th of January 1565. As usual the Hindus were successful at first, but Ramaraja who was sitting on a raised throne being wounded and captured, his army lost heart and began to leave the field in great confusion. The Mahomedans easily defeated and massacred the confused mob. Ramaraja was at once beheaded and his head was carried in triumph to Ahmadnagar. It is said that he was then 96 years old. If Ramaraja had acted with his usual tact and prudence he would have saved the last great Hindu Kingdom of South India, but his rashness probably brought on by dotage can only be compared to that of Sadashivrao Bhau at the battle of Paniput in 1761 A. D.

Ramaraja was the great ruler of Vijayanagar. Like his predecessors he encouraged arts and literature and built temples and tanks. He was brave, skilled in warfare and successful in diplomacy. For a quarter of a century his power was felt throughout Southern India. He had personally fought many battles since the time of Krishnaraya and was considered to be an excellent archer. The great temple of Hajari Ramaswami in Hampi was built by him. It is adorned with bass reliefs showing the submission of Mahomedan Kings.

After the great battle of Talikot the Hindu army dispersed and Venkatadri and Tirmalraya retired from Vijayanagar to Penugonda, in the Anantpur District. The allied forces soon reached Vijayanagar, but the citizens had already removed the

bulk of wealth from the place. 2550 elephant loads of treasury including the jewelled throne was thus carried away before the Mussalmans reached the place. They however still found plenty of wealth. The Mussalmans burnt the city, destroyed temples and palaces, broke idols, and disfigured buildings. Their acts of vandalism can be traced even today amongst the ruins of Vijayanagar. The city became a ruin and such of the inhabitants as still remained there, took to the surrounding hills.

The three Mussalman Kings spent six months in Vijayanagar and not coming to any definite agreement as to the partition of the conquered Kingdom they retired Northward. Tirmalraya brother of Ramaraja who started a new dynasty at Penugonda made a secret treaty with Ali Adil-Shah offering him Badami, Torgal and Mudgal. Husen Nizam-Shah retired to Ahmednagar and soon died. In 1567 Tirmalraya returned to Vijayanagar and tried to repopulate the city but he failed. Ceasar Frederick, a Venitian merchant who visited Vijayanagar in 1567, thus describes it.

"Vijayanagar though empty was not destroyed. The houses were standing but in parts of the city there was nothing but tigers and wild beasts. Most of the houses were plain with mud walls but the temples and palaces were of lime and fine marble. Of all the Kings' Courts he had seen, the Vijayanagar palace was the finest. There were five great outer and four small inner gates, the palace was well guarded and the city safe from thieves."

In 1566 Ali-Adil shah sent an army against Penugonda, but Venkatadri made a treaty with Ahmadnagar and Goalkonda, who invaded Bijapur from the north and thus forced Kishverkhan to retire. In 1568 Ali-Adilshah took the fort of Adoni from the nephew of Ramaraya and in 1573 took Badami and Torgal. Dharwar was taken in 1574 and after a seige of one year, the strong fort of Bankapur was conquered. Thus the whole of the south Deccan was conquered by Bijapur but beyond the river Tungbhadra, Tirmalraya still held his sway. The fate

of the last Emperor Sadashivraya is unknown, probably he was killed by Shri Rang, son of Tirmalraya as stated by Frederick.

The history of Vijayanagar practically closes with Sadashivraya though the kings of the new line established by Tirmalraya, continued to call themselves 'kings of Vijayanagar.' They had almost lost their hold on the western coast and north Mysore, where the local chiefs assumed independence. Shrirang ruled from 1573-1585. In 1579 Ali-Adil-shah invaded his country and besieged Penugonda. The king retired to Chandragiri. Ali however retired without taking Penugonda and was murdered at Bijapur in 1580. Shrirang died in 1585 and was succeeded by his brother Venkatpati who ruled from 1585 to 1614. He was a powerful king and established his authority over the refractory and rebellious Naiks of Jinji, Tanjore, Chennapatan, Madura and Shrirangpattan. He maintained a respectable court at Chandragiri and attempted to recover the country south of the Krishna from Mohmadkuli Kutub-shah, the successor of Ibrahim Kutub-shah.

This war was successfully carried on by Venkatpati from 1593-1599. His power was great below the eastern Ghats and in the Tamil country. After his death five kings ruled between 1614 to 1636 A. D. In 1636, Venkatpati was the king of Vijayanagar. This king granted in 1639 to the East India company, the site of the Fort St. George. He was succeeded by Shrirang, the last of the kings of Chandragiri. His kingdom was taken from him by Shahaji Bhosale, the father of Shivaji and a great general of Bijapur. Thus when the last vestiges of the kings of Vijayanagar were disappearing, seeds of new Empires were being planted by Shivaji and the East India Company. Shiraji says that soon after the fall of Vijayanagar Ali-Adilshah had granted the Jehagir of Anagundi, a suburb of Vijayanagar, to the son of Ramaraja, whose descendants enjoyed a respectable income till lately. The line still exists and the last scion of the great house of

Vijayanagar still enjoys the revenue of a few villages in the Nizam's dominions and maintains the departed dignity and the name of an Emperor. He owned Hospet and Bellary which were taken by the British Government from his family in consideration of a pension conferred on him, but a technical flaw in the adoption of the present Raja, deprived him of that poor pittance and he is spending his days in penury.

APPENDIX.

A GUIDE TO HAMPI.

HAMPI—A small village on the southern bank of Tungbhadra; about 8 miles from Hospet. The great city of Vijayanagar spread to the south of Hampi. The ruins of that city are called '*Hal-Pattanam*' or the ruined city. On the northern side of the river is the village of *Anagundi*, where the Raja now resides. A few miles to the east of Hampi is *Kishkinda*, the ancient Capital of *Sugriva*. *Hampi* is from Telegu '*Pampa*' the name of a tank, considered sacred. The river Tungbhadra is also called *Pampa*. *Hampi* and its surrounding places are held in great veneration since ancient times on account of their mention in the *Ramayan*. It was here that Rama is said to have made friendship with the '*Monkey* king *Sugriva* and his friend *Hanuman*. Rama killed *Vali* and restored *Sugriva* to the throne of *Kishkinda*. Rama spent a whole monsoon on the hill *Malyavant* before he started against *Ravan* with his monkey hordes. There is a temple of *Raghunathji* on this hill where pilgrims repair from distant parts of India. The hills *Rishyamuk* and *Anjani* are on the northern bank of the river, so is the tank '*Pampa*.' The hills *Hemkuta*, *Matang* and *Malyavant* are on the southern side. Between these picturesque hills of huge boulders of granite, the river Tungbhadra forces its way through a narrow and rocky bed. The hills are sparcely covered with vegetation, but the valleys are full of low brush-wood. *Shabari* is said to have resided in these woods and after meeting Rama, she burnt herself in his presence. There is a temple of Hanuman on the *Anjani Parvata*. *Anagundi* contains no buildings of any importance but has got some old caves said to be Budhistic. Anagundi was a suburb of Vijayanagar and was connected by a bridge whose pillars are still to be seen in the bed of the river. At present one has to cross the river in a ferry boat. The southern bank of the river is full of bathing ghats, mantapas, tombs of Satis and ascetics and shrines. The village of Hampi is at the foot of *Hemkuta*. The great temple of *Virupax* or *Pampa-Pati* is said to have been built by *Madhav Vidyaranya*.

whose *Samadhi* is behind it. The temple was improved by Harihar II and Krishnaraya. There are inscriptions of these kings in the temple. The two *Gopuras* on the eastern and northern gates are remarkable for their elaborate designs. In the inner court-yard is the temple of *Bhuvaneshwari* whose door and ceiling are fine specimens of stone carving.

To the south of *Virupax temple* is a tank called '*Manmathsar*. There are small shrines on its bank and a few inscriptions.

In front of the temple of *Virupax* is a bazzar used on festivals which extends to the foot of the Matang hill. There is a big Bull of one stone. The hill is surmounted by a temple of Virbhadra. A tiny water channel is brought over the *Hemkuta* hill and it runs through the great court-yard of *Virupax*.

Hemkuta hill is full of small Jain and Hindu temples, amongst them are 2 huge monolithic statues of *Ganapati*. There is a well preserved incription in a gate-way-on this hill. On the southern slope of this hill extends the suburb of Krishna-Puram containing a large temple of *Krishna* built by Krishnaraya. The gate-way fo the temple differs from the usual *Gopur* forms. There are many inscriptions here also. The temple is in ruins. In front of it is a tank and bazar. Going south towards Kade-Rampuram, the temple of Shri-Lakshmi Nrisinha, built in 1529 A. D. is seen. There is a big Shivaling near it. A little further south are the Lingayat temples of *Tandaveshvar* and *Uttan-Veerbhadra*.. To the left of the last is an ancient mantap of 1000 pillars, said to be built by *Vidyaranya*.

A foot-path from the bazzar in front of Virupax leads to a point where the river takes a northern bend in its course, and this spot is called *Chakra Tirth*. There is temple of *Kodandapani Rama* still used for worship. Opposite this is the hill *Rishymuka*. Going east from this temple one meets with numerous temples in ruin. A bazzar runs north-south at the foot of *Matang*, containiug a gymnasium and a temple built by *Achyutraya*. This bazzar was occupied by gay courtezans but now is turned into rice fields. Further east one passes by several shrines and maths as far as the famous temple of *Vijaya Vithal*, the most beautiful of *Vijayanagar* temples. There is a pair of tall stone pillars with a cross beam on the top from which king Krishnaraya weighed himself against gold.

The temple of *Vithal* is built by Krishnaraya and Achyutraya and is an excellent specimen of South Indian Architecture. 'It is wholly in granite and carved with a boldness and expression of power nowhere surpassed in the buildings of its class'. The principal mantap is remarkably beautiful with its carved pillars having detached shafts and elaborate cornices. In front of it is a car carved out from one stone with movable stone wheels. On the right side stands in good condition the *Kalyan-Mantapa* which has got a colonnade of different designs. There are two more similar mantaps in the enclosure. As usual there is a bazzar and a tank in front of the temple. The building appears to have suffered much from the hands of the Mahomedan vandals.

Looked from a distance to the right as one approaches Hampi from Hospet, many Gopuras and Vimans of temples are seen peeping out through trees and one feels as if he is close to a great living city. But as you approach nearer you find nothing but lonely wilderness with marshy fields of sugar-cane and rice. The great canals which once supplied the daily wants of a million souls are still there, but used only for irrigation. Wandering through this open valley surrounded by hills and ramparts, one will notice foundations of old houses and bazzars. For miles and miles around one sees in a chaotic confusion and in every state of delapidation,-great and small temples, shrines, pillared halls and pavilions, rest-houses, gate-ways, walled enclosures, ramparts with towers, dry tanks and cisterns, water-courses and broken images, all covered with debris and rank growth of vegetation,—but not a human being to tell their life story! Time and man have done their best to bring about the destruction of this noble city, and looking at it one is strongly reminded of the truth of *Bhartrihari's* well-known verse which describes the play of the wheel of Time.

The city proper extended between Kamlapur and a range of hills to the south of Hampi. The only civil buildings now existing are, a concert hall, a court-house, elephant stables, a double storyed Indo-Saracenic Pavilion, a tall watch-tower and the royal baths. The harem and royal palace are in total ruin. The palace consisted of a number of detached buildings connected by arcades. There must have been gardens round them as the numerous water-courses and cisterns indicate.

The royal palace was surrounded by several walls and it had a spacious arena. There is a stone trough 43 ft. long lying in the arena. Behind the palace proper there are many well built stone cellars. Close to the palace is a big temple called *Hazari Ramswamy* having in relief scenes from the Ramayan on its stone walls. In the mantap are four highly polished pillars of black marble. The outer walls of the temples are covered with figures of elephants, horses, camels and foot soldiers. In one scene Mussalman captives are led before the king and the queen, who are sitting on the throne

To the east of the palace there is high platform called 'Mahanavami Dibba,' built with sculptured stones. It was used during the Dussera holidays, when the king received presents from his nobles and witnessed the grand assemblage of his army and people in the plain below. Abdul Razak has given an excellent description of this great fair. On this platform, under a golden canopy, sat the Emperor on a jewelled throne, surrounded by kings and nobles; but now it is covered with grass and thorns. A fine birds-eye-view of the city to the north is obtained from this platform. Besides the above places, the only other buildings worth mention are, the Jain temple, called *Gangitti*, *Chandrashekhar Math*, *Pattabhishekh Rama* and some temples dedicated to Shiva and Hanuman. A curious pavilion of one stone built on a boulder on the hill is ascribed to the famous court Jester Tennalu Ram-Krishna. It may be mentioned that the inscription in the temple of *Gangitti* states that the temple was built in what was then a '*Pansupari bazzar*,' but now no trace of a street is left there!

The destruction of this city is due to the Mussalmans who occupied it for six months after the battle of Talikot. They burnt and destroyed buildings, dis-figured and broke images and sculptures and dug the foundations of palaces and temples for buried treasures.

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